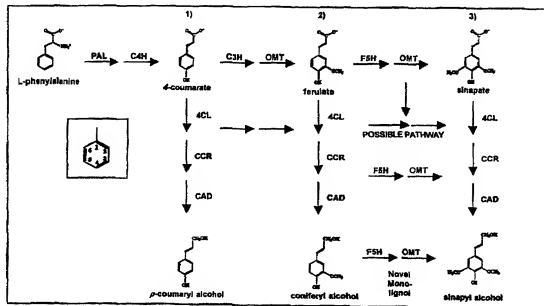




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> : C12N 15/82, A01H 5/00, D21C 3/00		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/46382
(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA00/00074		(43) International Publication Date: 10 August 2000 (10.08.00)	
(22) International Filing Date: 31 January 2000 (31.01.00)			
(30) Priority Data: 60/118,124 1 February 1999 (01.02.99) US			
(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SILVAGEN INC. [CA/CA]; BC Research and Innovation Complex, 3650 Westbrook Mall, Vancouver, British Columbia V6S 2L2 (CA).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
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Agents: GALE, Edwin, J. et al.; Kibry, Eades, Gale, Baker, P.O. Box 3432, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6N9 (CA).			

(54) Title: MODIFICATION OF LIGNIN COMPOSITION OF GYMNOSPERMS



## (57) Abstract

A process of producing a transformed gymnosperm plant or plant precursor (cells, callus, embryo, shoot, seed or seedling) having a genome containing at least one expressible transgene that results in modification of the lignin composition of the plant effective to make the plant more commercially desirable. One of the expressible transgenes is preferably the ferulate 5-hydroxylase gene, or a gene which encodes an enzyme that has enzymatic activity substantially similar to the F5H enzyme when transformed in yeast, such that when transformed into plant cells, it results in the production of lignin containing syringyl or other lignin residues in a gymnosperm.